

Hungary and Rumania. Hellén's *G. gracilis* was not described until 1915. He gave no host and none has apparently been reported to date.

The Shropshire specimens are the same species as the long series of about 40 reared from *O. mygindiana* by W.H.B. Fletcher from Rannoch last century and treated as an unnamed variety of *Glypta certites* (Gravenhorst) by J.B. Bridgman in 1866. (Further additions to the Rev. T.A. Marshall catalogue of British Ichneumonidae, *Transactions of the Entomological Society of London*, **1866**: 335-373.) The all-black coxae of the Shropshire specimens suggest that they may, in fact, be the closely related *Glypta* (*Conoblasta*) *gracilis* Hellén, a species that has not yet been recognised as British nor formerly recorded as having been reared (M.R. Shaw, *pers. comm.*).

Acknowledgements

I am grateful to Mark Shaw of the National Museum of Scotland, Edinburgh for the identification of the Ichneumonidae and the information related to the *Glypta* species. My thanks also to Tom Wall of English Nature and Forest Enterprises, South and West England for permits to collect on the Stiperstones and Nipstone. Last but not least to Veronica, Mark and Andrew Poynton for their help in collecting the larval spinnings in less than ideal weather conditions.— DR DAVID POYNTON, 1A Castlegate, Prestbury, Cheshire SK10 4AZ.

Camberwell Beauty, *Nymphalis antiopa* Linn. (Lep.: Nymphalidae) in Hertfordshire and beyond

Following reports of rare migrant Odonata such as the Yellow-winged and Vagrant Darters (*Sympetrum flaveolum* Linn. and *S. vulgatum* Linn.) in Great Yarmouth cemetery on 2.viii.1995, an easterly immigration of Camberwell Beauties was also reported from the same site.

It was therefore an extremely exciting encounter I had with my friend Mike Watson with *N. antiopa* in Hitchin town centre, Hertfordshire on the morning of 4th August. This was not just a chance encounter as we were deliberately exploring the "Buddleia forest" that exists in the main street on some derelict land behind the main shops. The huge number of bushes were attracting large numbers of Painted Lady (*Cynthia cardui* Linn.) (27 seen) as well as the expected commoner nymphalids and satyrids.

It is interesting to note that in the last great Camberwell Beauty year of 1976 when over 300 were recorded, the first arrivals from the Baltic via Denmark also appeared in Great Yarmouth, although earlier on 27th June (Chalmers-Hunt, 1977, *Entomologist's Rec. J. Var.* **99**: 89-105).

I have compiled a list of other sightings from both personal communications and the *Rare Bird Alert*:

August

- 2nd Cheadle, Manchester (2)
 3rd Dunstable, Bedfordshire (1); Dungeness, Kent (1)
 4th Hitchin, Hertfordshire (1); Great Yarmouth, Norfolk (2); Holkham, Norfolk (1)
 5th Gosport, Hampshire (1); Greatstone, Kent (1); Huddersfield, Yorkshire (1); Tayside (1); Hitchin, Hertfordshire (2)
 6th Hickling, Norfolk (3); Heysham, Lancashire (1); Tyne & Wear (1)
 7th Bangor, Co. Down (1)
 13th Flamborough Head, Humberside (1)
 20th Landguard, Suffolk (1)
 21-22nd Cley, Norfolk (2); Waxham, Norfolk (1); Long Melford, Suffolk (1)
 24th Gorleston, Norfolk (1)
 "Aug" Warwickshire, various (8)
 31st -
 5th Sept. Hopton-on-sea, Norfolk (1); Salthouse Village, Norfolk (1)

September

- 6th Portland, Dorset (1)
 18th Holkham, Norfolk (1); Blakeney Point, Norfolk (1)
 23rd Walton-on-Naze, Essex (1)

October

- 2nd Salthouse, Norfolk (1)
 – STUART PITTMAN, 101 Old Hale Way, Hitchin, Hertfordshire SG5 1XR.

Records of the genus *Pedasia* (Pyralidae) in south Devon

I was pleased to read that R. McCormick found *Pedasia contaminella* Hbn. commonly on Dawlish Warren (*Entomologist's Rec. J. Var.* **107**: 14), confirming that it still exists there. I found the species commonly in the dune slacks on the Warren on 25.vii.1960 and 17.vii.1961.

On 24.vii.1968 at the same locality I found *Pedasia aridella* Thunb. (*salinellus* Tutt) commonly on the edge of the golf course next to the salterns. These records were unpublished. There were 19th century published records for both these species in VC3, but as the species were often confused these old records cannot stand.— A.H. DOBSON, 282 Britten Road, Basingstoke, Hampshire RG22 4HR.

Ladybirds at light (Col.: Coccinellidae)

Amongst the sporadic beetle visitors to my garden mercury vapour trap there is the very occasional ladybird. I was therefore surprised to find three specimens quiecent amongst the egg boxes in the trap on the morning of